

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re: Application of: Holger STARK, et al.  
Serial No.: To Be Assigned  
Filed: Herewith as national phase of International Patent  
Application PCT/EP2004/012581, filed November 6, 2004  
  
For: **LIGHTWEIGHT VALVE**  
  
Customer No: 23280

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 18, 2006

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicants request that the following Amendments be made in the above-identified matter prior to examination thereof: